

Welcome

On behalf of the Executive Institute Steering Committee, welcome to Napa and to the 2005 Executive Institute. This year's theme, Strategic Enterprise, builds on the first ever state-wide strategic plan. The topic seems perfect for the Executive Institute since the audience is comprised of both business and information technology executives.

In developing the program for this year's conference, the committee has attempted to bring together speakers with vision, leadership, practical experience and prior project successes. In keeping with the theme, they will talk about a variety of timely and relevant discussions dealing with the enterprise challenges facing today's state executives.

In the seventeenth century John Donne said "no man is an island, entire of itself every man is a piece of the continent..."; that quote could just as easily work today for any department within the state. The state is attempting to grow into a more coalescent form of government. Prior lean economic years and new technologies have encouraged the state to challenge the status quo and to look for new and more efficient ways to deliver government. An enterprise government model not only can set standards and provide better communication, but can also reduce costs and provide a more efficient way to deliver services to the public. This approach is also consistent with several CPR recommendations which frequently called for consolidated solutions.

Over the next day and a half you'll have an opportunity to engage in lively dialogue on various topics dealing with the state's future. While some futures may seem effortlessly attainable, other efforts require more work and that planning can start here, today. Let me encourage you to engage not only the speakers in discussions about what is possible but, please engage your peers in discussions; that dialogue can be a legacy of this conference as much as any handout you take with you.

Think strategically, act tactically, and thank you for coming to Napa.

Christy Quinlan
Chief Host, Executive Institute